

Recommended Biosecurity Guidelines for Public Horse Auctions & Sales in Virginia

March 8, 2007

- 1) Notify the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Regional Office of Veterinary Services of the Sale or Auction date and time at least two days prior to the sale date. Sales/Auction management should hold sales only after careful consideration of the biosecurity risk of commingling horses of unknown origin and history.
- 2) Record the following information for each horse unloaded on the sale property and send (by email, fax, or USPS) a copy of all information to the appropriate VDACS Regional Office of Veterinary Services by second business day after the sale:
 - (a) Name, address (must include street address), and phone numbers for consignor.
 - (b) Name, address (must include street address), and phone numbers for buyer.
 - (c) Lab accession number of Equine Infectious Anemia test record for horse and a statement by the sale manager that the horse's description matches the description on the EIA test chart accompanying the horse.
- 3) Consignors should sign and date a statement for each horse consigned stating:

“I, _____, have owned the consigned horse named
(Consignor's name)
_____, whose laboratory Equine Infectious
(Horse's name)
Anemia accession number is _____ for at least
28 days. This horse has not been on a premise under quarantine for Equine
Herpes Virus-Type 1 and has not been exposed to a horse showing signs of
neurological Equine Herpes Virus”.
- 4) Stable or display horses in a manner that prevents nose to nose contact. Horses traveling to the sale together may be penned with or adjacent to each other but other horses should be kept separated, at least one pen or more apart.
- 5) Do not stall different horses in the same stall or pen unless the stall or pen is thoroughly disinfected between horses. The period of time that the virus can live outside the body may vary from days to weeks. Surfaces should be cleaned before disinfecting because the presence of organic material and porous wood surfaces makes reliable disinfection difficult.
- 6) Do not use common watering troughs, watering buckets, or feed containers. Provide horses with individual water and feed buckets. Do not touch individual buckets with communal hoses or feed scoops. Disinfect buckets in between horses.

- 7) Do not use bridles, halters, lead ropes on more than one horse. Saddles must be completely wiped down with a disinfectant between uses on different horses.
- 8) Provide hand washing stations, waterless hand cleansers, chlorinated wet wipes or examination gloves. Require anyone touching a horse to clean hands thoroughly after touching a horse. If exam gloves are worn, they should be removed and discarded immediately after touching each horse.
- 9) Horses purchased by out-of-state buyers or moved to a premise outside of Virginia may require a valid Certificate of Veterinary Inspection. The sale should make arrangements to have an accredited private veterinarian on site or accessible to provide Certificates of Veterinary Inspection when needed by buyers.

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